

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 058802

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058802

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: OREP, UR (KENNEDY, EDWARD M.)

SUBJECT: CODEL KENNEDY

REF: STATE 49882; MOSCOW 3516

1. DURING MEETING MARCH 21, SENATOR KENNEDY AND STAFFER ROBERT HUNTER PROVIDED FOLLOWING BACKGROUND ON SENATOR'S PLANS FOR VISIT TO USSR:

A. VISIT IS IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET INVITATION EXTENDED THROUGH DOBRYNIN. A.P. SHITIKOV, CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF UNION, USSR SUPREME SOVIET, WILL BE NOMINAL HOST, BUT SENATOR HAS IMPRESSION MFA MAKING ARRANGEMENTS. SENATOR HAS HAD TWO MEETINGS WITH DOBRYNIN AND STAFF HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH VORONTSOV AND ISAKOV RE ARRANGEMENTS.

B. PARTY WILL CONSIST OF SENATOR AND MRS. KENNEDY, MR. ROBERT HUNTER, MR. JAMES KING (SEE (G) BELOW) AND FOUR OR MORE JOURNALISTS (SEE (F) BELOW).

C. SENATOR PREFERS SCHEDULE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: MOSCOW APRIL 10-12, LENINGRAD APRIL 13-14; A THIRD SOVIET CITY FROM WHICH FARM COULD BE VISITED, APRIL 15-16. DEPARTURE WOULD BE MORNING OF APRIL 17 FOR EITHER BUCHAREST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 058802

OR WARSAW. TRIP TO LENINGRAD WOULD BE LARGELY FOR TOURISM,

ALTHOUGH SENATOR WOULD BE PLEASED TO PAY COURTESY CALLS ON SENIOR PARTY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. AS FOR THIRD CITY, SENATOR CONSIDERING KIEV, ODESSA, AND TBILISI. AT MOMENT, PREFERENCE RUNNING TOWARD TBILISI, BUT BRIEF STOP IN ODESSA TO VISIT OREC EXHIBIT NOT EXCLUDED IF LOGISTICS PERMIT.

D. IN GENERAL, SENATOR INTERESTED IN DISCUSSIONS AND VISITS RELATED TO FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- (1) CONDITION OF DETENTE
- (2) ARMS CONTROL ISSUES, INCLUDING SALT AND MBFR
- (3) TRADE PROSPECTS, INCLUDING ENERGY PROJECTS
- (4) SOVIET HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
- (5) SOVIET AGRICULTURE, INCLUDING VISIT TO FARM.

E. SENATOR HAS SUGGESTED TO DOBRYNIN FOLLOWING SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES:

(1) CALL ON BREZHNEV AND IF POSSIBLE OTHER SOVIET LEADERS. (FYI SENATOR CONSIDERS BREZHNEV CALL SINE QUA NON FOR TRIP AND IS STILL PRESSING FOR SPECIFIC ASSURANCE; DOBRYNIN HAS TOLD HIM IN GENERAL THAT HIS REQUESTS FOR APPOINTMENTS WILL BE GRANTED.)

(2) PUBLIC ADDRESS, PERHAPS AT MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY.

(3) TV ADDRESS

(4) MEETING WITH USA INSTITUTE AND PERHAPS IMEMO SPECIALISTS.

(5) VISIT TO FARM.

F. SENATOR WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY PRESS PARTY. AT MOMENT FOUR JOURNALISTS HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN TRIP AND PARTY COULD BE LARGER. JOURNALISTS WILL NOT BE PRESENT DURING OFFICIAL CALLS AND CONVERSATIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 058802

G. SENATOR HAS REQUESTED THAT SOVIETS RECEIVE ADVANCE MAN, MR. JAMES KING, DURING WEEK OF MARCH 25 TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF ARRANGEMENTS. KING WOULD ALSO SERVE AS SECURITY LIAISON OFFICER DURING VISIT. NO REPLY RECEIVED YET REGARDING ACCEPTABILITY OF KING'S ARRIVAL IN ADVANCE.

2. FYI ONLY - SENATOR IS INTERESTED IN ARRANGING SOME

CONTACT WITH JEWISH ACTIVITIES DURING HIS TRIP. HE IS
AWARE OF MAYOR LINDSAY'S EXPERIENCE AND APPARENTLY HOPES
TO HANDLE SAME WAY. HIS STAFF HAS GIVEN SOVIET EMBASSY

ADVANCE WARNING OF THIS INTEREST. END FYI

3. ACTION REQUESTED: SENATOR WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S
CONTACTING MFA (OR SHITKIKOV'S OFFICE, IF APPROPRIATE)
REGARDING PROGRESS OF PLANS FOR SENATOR'S SCHEDULE. IN
PARTICULAR, SENATOR URGENTLY NEEDS REPLY TO HIS REQUEST
TO SEND KING AS ADVANCE MAN. ADDITIONALLY, SENATOR WOULD
APPRECIATE ANY ADVICE EMBASSY MAY HAVE ON APPOINTMENTS HE
SHOULD SEEK. KISSINGER

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